

Montana Planning News

from the
Montana State Library



STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

JUL 11 1978

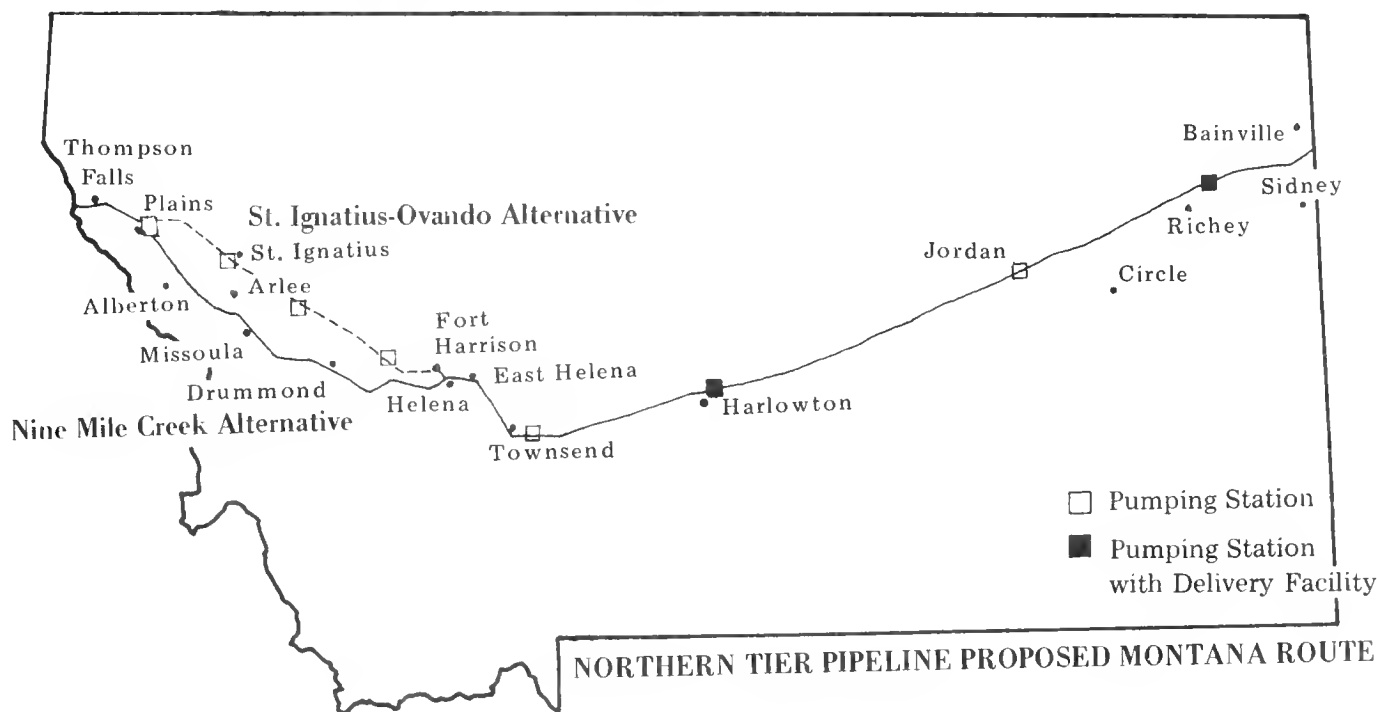
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
930 E Lyndale Ave.
Helena, Montana 59601

MONTANA PLANNING NEWS

June/July
1978

Department of Community Affairs Planning Division

NORTHERN TIER PIPELINE: CRUDE OIL FOR MONTANA REFINERIES?



With refineries in the Northern Tier states saying they will be running low on crude oil supplies in the near future, and refineries on the West Coast soon to be swamped with Alaskan and foreign crude oil, what's the best way to handle both problems?

The answer, according to the Northern Tier Pipeline Company, is to build a 1,560-mile pipeline from the West Coast across the Northern Tier, from Port Angeles, Washington to Clearbrook, Minnesota.

The pipeline, proposed by a group of investors that include Burlington Northern, Milwaukee Railroad and U.S. Steel, would cross about 620 miles of Montana, entering west of Thompson Falls and exiting north of Sidney. Along that route, it would supply crude oil to refineries at Billings and Laurel.

The refineries learned of the potential shortage in 1975 when Canada announced its intention of reducing its oil exports to the U.S., cutting them off entirely by 1982. Canadian crude oil accounted for about one-third of Montana's supply in 1975.

The Northern Tier proposal is only one of many aimed at distributing Alaskan and Foreign crude oil across the U.S. to replace the Canadian crude. Other proposals include a pipeline at Kitimat, British Columbia, a U.S.-Canadian trade system, and oil tanker transportation to Long Beach, California. A report from the Department of Energy on the feasibility of about a dozen of these proposals is due in December. Meanwhile, the Northern Tier proposal has received the most attention in Montana, including endorsements from many prominent politicians. (Continued on Page 2)

PIPELINE (continued)

Therefore, we decided to provide a brief description of the Northern Tier Pipeline in this issue of MPN. If you need further information, contact David Janis, Northern Tier EIS Project Manager, Energy Planning Division, DNRC, Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59601/(406) 449-3780 or The Northern Tier ES Team, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, P. O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208/(toll-free) 1-800-547-5532.

THE TANKER PORT

The Northern Tier Pipeline Company (NTPCo) proposes to build a Marine Terminal and Onshore Storage Facilities at Port Angeles, Washington. The deepwater port would accept large oil tankers with Alaskan or foreign crude and the storage facilities would hold it for transportation through the pipeline. NTPCo's main office would be located at the facility, and would contain a master computer that would automatically control the operation of the entire pipeline system.

THE PIPELINE

An underground 42" or 40" steel pipeline is planned. The tentative route crosses 449 miles of Washington, 77 miles of Idaho, 624 miles of Montana, 344 miles of North Dakota and 74 miles of Minnesota.

The company's desired route in Montana crosses 18 counties: Sanders, Lake, Missoula, Powell, Lewis and Clark, Jefferson, Broadwater, Meagher, Wheatland, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Fergus, Petroleum, Garfield, McCone, Dawson, Richland and Roosevelt. However, this corridor includes the St. Ignatius-Ovando Alternative route in western Montana, and the Flathead Indian Tribe recently voted to block construction of the pipeline on reservation lands, apparently ruling out that route. NTPCo is reportedly investigating other routes through western Montana.

Where topography allows, the company plans to purchase a permanent 75-foot easement along with an additional 15-foot temporary easement for construction. The permanent easement will stipulate allowable uses near or over the buried pipeline for the landowner, uses such as grazing or row cropping that will not interfere with the safety, access and maintenance of the pipeline. The company plans to make a one-time payment to the landowners for the easement and any damages occurring during construction of the pipeline.

NTPCo will employ what it terms "state-of-the-arts" pipeline leak detection within its supervisory control system. As required by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the company plans aerial inspection of the pipeline route every two weeks.

At stream crossings, the company plans to blast or to dredge a channel for the pipeline and to bury it below scour depth. Underwater pipeline crossings would be inspected every five years.

The entire pipeline would be coated to prevent corrosion; special precautions are also planned for installing and operating the pipeline near high-voltage transmission lines, under highways, across irrigation ditches and in seismically active areas.

The company would have equipment to clean-up oil spills and fires at various locations throughout the route. It also will draw up a contingency plan for emergencies, but says that will not be prepared until the later stages of project development.

PIPELINE STATIONS

Pumps would drive the crude oil through the pipeline. Twenty-three unmanned pumping stations are planned, with eight in Montana. The pumps would run off of local electrical supplies. The automated stations would require five acres of land with a good access road; a helicopter landing pad is planned at each station for emergency access. One of the pumping stations in Montana would also have a surge tank to relieve pressure in the pipeline whenever necessary.

DELIVERY FACILITIES

NTPCo is negotiating to supply crude oil to two existing pipelines in Montana: the Glacier Pipeline northeast of Harlowton and the Western Crude Oil Pipeline northeast of Richey. The Glacier Pipeline would then supply the oil to refineries in Billings and Laurel. The oil handling and storage facilities would each require about 50 acres of land and good access roads.

Paul Polzin, a research associate of the Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research has estimated that if Canadian crude oil sources dry up and are not replaced, Montana could lose up to 500 jobs in the refineries and 2,300 in derivative industries. *(Continued on Page 4)*

The **Montana Planning News** is published each month by the Planning Division of the Montana Department of Community Affairs. There is no subscription charge. To get on our mailing list, write to the **Montana Planning News**, DCA Planning Division, Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59601 or call (406) 449-3757.

We welcome responses to articles, reader letters and article suggestions.

This publication is financed in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the provisions of Section 701 of the Housing Act of 1954, as amended.



\$106,336 for Transportation

Public transportation for Montana's elderly and handicapped citizens received a boost from a \$106,336 grant, the DCA Planning Division announced in June.

The federal grant, awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation, will go to five private, nonprofit agencies in Montana to help them purchase ten small buses. The vehicles provide specialized service for elderly and handicapped persons who may have difficulty obtaining personal transportation; four of the buses will be equipped with special wheelchair lifts.

The \$106,336 represent 80% of the cost of the vehicles. The remaining 20% comes from local, non-federal funds.

According to Charlene Tenneson, a transportation planner in the DCA Planning Division, the five agencies funded are: the Yellowstone County Council on Aging, the Big Horn County Council on Aging, the Lake County Council on Aging, the Camas Hot Springs Senior Citizens, Inc., and the Rocky Boy Health Board.

This is the third year Montana has received funds under this program. The state was awarded \$150,000 in both 1975 and 1976, and with the current award, Montana will have provided 41 vehicles to 29 nonprofit agencies.

Beginning July 1st, DCA will be accepting proposals for the 1979 funding period, when Montana can fund a maximum of \$170,000 in projects. While these projects are limited to nonprofit agencies, a separate federal program provides funds for local governments that wish to start a transportation project for elderly and handicapped residents.

DCA will provide assistance to nonprofit agencies and local governments interested in designing transportation programs for their areas. For more information, contact Charlene Tenneson, DCA Planning Division, Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59601/449-3757.

Pipeline (cont.)

IMPACTS

The most obvious impacts of the Northern Tier Pipeline in Montana would involve the construction crews. Either four or five crews would be constructing the pipeline itself during an 8-12 month period, covering about 1½ miles each day; each crew would contain over 400 workers. In addition, eight 122-worker crews would be building pumping stations over a 16-month span, and two 105-worker crews would construct delivery facilities at the Harlowton and east-of-Richey pump stations during the same period.

NTPCo's voluminous project description devoted a scant 1¼ pages to housing and services for construction crews, suggesting that workers would be housed in existing facilities in nearby communities. For Montana, it specified Missoula, Helena and Billings. It concluded that "... construction personnel are expected to cause minimal negative impacts upon housing and services ..."

DCA will be working with the NTPCo and communities along the proposed route to improve the impact assessment and plans for housing and services for construction crews.

TIMING

There's been a great deal of pressure in Washington, D.C. to speed approval of the Northern Tier Proposal. An amendment, sponsored by Montana Senator John Melcher, has been attached to one of the bills in President Carter's energy package, and is now awaiting his signature. The amendment would require the final federal environmental impact statement (EIS) on the project by December of this year.

But even if that amendment passes, and the resulting EIS stands without a court challenge, the Northern Tier Pipeline faces additional red tape. Several Federal agencies must issue permits, including the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the Corps of Engineers.

And in the five states, approval may take even longer. Three of the states have environmental policy acts and will require EIS's: Washington, Montana and Minnesota. Washington Governor Dixie Lee Ray and the community of Port Angeles have already expressed opposition to the project. And in Montana alone, NTPCo may need more than ten types of permits from state and local governments. The company must also negotiate with individual landowners along the route for easements.

Right now, the company is planning to start construction of the project in the fourth quarter of 1979, and complete it by the second quarter of 1981. Whether it can meet either of these goals remains to be seen.

Library Conference in October

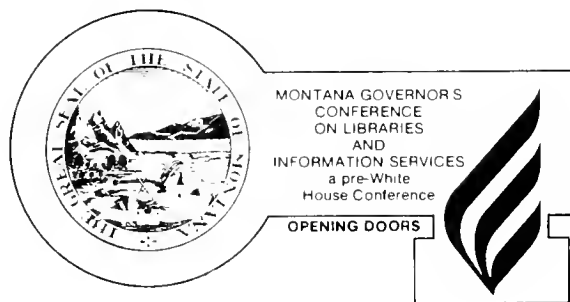
Nominations are still open for delegates to the Montana Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services, to be held in Helena on October 6, 7 and 8 of this year.

The Montana conference will bring together citizens from all segments of the state to discuss the present and future of our libraries. Each state will be holding a conference between now and May 1979, and recommendations from those conferences will become part of the agenda for the National White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services to be held in Washington, D.C. in the fall of 1979.

There will be 100 delegates chosen to attend the Montana conference. Two-thirds of these must be citizens not professionally associated with libraries—this conference is meant for those who use the libraries, not those who run them.

If you're interested in being a delegate, or you want to nominate someone else, write to the following address by July 7:

Montana Governor's Conference on Libraries
Montana State Library
930 E. Lyndale
Helena, MT 59601

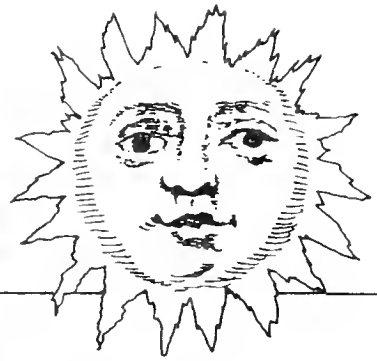


Montana Planning News
Volume 1

June/July 1978
Number 5

4 MPN June/July
1978

energy information



Do you ever get the feeling there's an office somewhere that spends all its time churning out acronyms, those pithy abbreviations for long-winded bureaucratic titles? Well, so did we when we set out to compile the following list of OIHOIE.*

Whether you want information about energy development impacts, grant programs, alternative energy or another topic, you should be able to find it from one of the sources listed below.

*organizations interested in offering information on energy

AERO (Alternative Energy Resources Organization)

435 Stapleton Bldg.
Billings, MT 59101/259-1958
or

AERO-West

323 West Alder
Missoula, MT 59801/728-0015

This private, nonprofit group serves as a clearinghouse for information on renewable energy and resources.

EARS (Environmental Action Reprint Service)

2239 East Colfax
Denver, CO 80206/(303) 934-7182

A bookstore-by-mail with extensive materials on renewable energy and resources.

EMRIA (Energy Minerals Rehabilitation Inventory and Analysis)

U.S. Bureau of Land Management
316 N. 26th St.
Billings, MT 59101/657-6474

Researches and develops information on the reclamation potential of lands disturbed by coal development.

ERIS (Energy Research Information System)

Old West Regional Commission
228 Hedden-Empire Bldg.
Billings, MT 59101/657-6665

Computerized listings of current and past energy research projects within the five-state Old West region.

Federal Regional Council Energy Impact Office

Federal Bldg.
1961 Stout St.
Denver, CO 80294/(303) 837-2751

Helps communities locate and apply for federal grants or loans to solve problems related to energy development

MINE (Montana Information Network and Exchange)

your local federated public library or
Montana State Library
930 E. Lyndale
Helena, MT 59601/449-3004

Not specifically set up for energy, but MINE helps your local library get you information on about any subject

NCAT (National Center for Appropriate Technology)

P. O. Box 3838
Butte, MT 59701/723-6533

NCAT works on renewable energy conservation and technology, particularly for lower-income families

National Solar Heating and Cooling Information Center

P. O. Box 1607
Rockville, MD 20850/(800) 523-2929

Call toll-free for information on solar technology, speakers, exhibits, bibliographies and grant programs.

New Western Energy Show

226 Power Block
Helena, MT 59601/443-7272

Excellent theatrical productions and educational materials from this nonprofit group

Office of Environmental Information Systems

Department of Energy
Mail Station E-201
Washington, D.C. 20545/(301) 353-4664

This office funds and manages projects that address national energy related health, safety and environmental information and systems

(continued on p. 6)

more energy info

Regional Energy/Environment Information Center
Denver Public Library
1357 Broadway
Denver, CO 80203/(303) 837-5994

Call collect to this regional clearinghouse of energy information for answers to questions, referral and excellent bibliographies on energy issues.

SEAM (Surface Environment and Mining)
U.S. Forest Service
115 Grand Ave.
Billings, MT 59102/657-6468

SEAM develops and disseminates information about reclamation technology and practices

SERI (Solar Energy Research Institute)
1536 Cole Blvd.
Golden, CO 80401/(303) 234-7223

This is the federal office for solar energy research and development

WELUT (Western Energy and Land Use Team)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Bldg., Room 206
301 S. Howes St.
Fort Collins, CO 80521/(303) 221-2040

WELUT collects information on the impacts of energy development on fish and wildlife.

WESTERN SUN (Western Solar Utilization Network)
c/o Montana Energy Office
Capitol Station
Helena, MT 59601/449-3940

Funds projects promoting the use of alternative energy sources

WINE (Western Information Network on Energy)
Montana EPA Energy Operations Office
Capitol Station
Helena, MT 59601/449-3940

WINE disseminates energy information to the ten-state Rocky Mountain/Plains region

Last, but certainly not least, the newly reorganized state energy program features the Montana Energy Division within the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, the Energy Policy Office within the Lieutenant Governor's office, a citizen advisory council and an executive branch task force on energy.

"I am highly enthusiastic about this reorganization plan," said Governor Tom Judge, "... and I am convinced that this carefully structured reorganization will assist Montana in pursuing our commitment to balanced development with the wise use of our resources over the long term."

It should take a little while before the reorganization is complete, so until then, contact either the Montana Energy Office, Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59601/449-3940 or the DNRC Energy Planning Division, Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59601/449-3780.

HELENA . . . Over 600 energy research projects in or concerning Montana are described in a 400-page publication recently released by the Montana Energy Office. MEO says its **Directory of Energy Research and Development Projects** is a useful guide for researchers, local, state and federal planners and others involved in energy research.

The **Directory** costs \$3.00, and you can order a copy from the Montana Energy Office, Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59601/(406) 449-3940.

Job Opening

The Flathead River Basin Environmental Impact Study is looking for a study area manager to serve as a technical specialist and advisor to the Study Steering Committee.

Minimum qualifications include a Bachelor's degree, three years experience in natural resources management and knowledge of grant and contract procedures.

The single-year contract pays \$18,000-\$24,000 and maybe subject to renewal. Contact Leland Schoonover, Flathead River Basin Environmental Impact Study Steering Committee, South Shore, Polson, MT 59864 by July 7.

LOCAL COMMENT

Reprinted from the June 7th

Livingston Enterprise

Park County has historically taken a casual approach to the problems of planning, and it appears that attitude is beginning to backfire.

A few years ago, the Park County Commissioners selected a planning board, mostly because the state forced the commission to do it. Most of the members of the board, which was presumably assigned the task of overseeing and regulating development all over the county, were really against that kind of regulation.

The board has acted without much energy ever since, avoiding any strict regulation of development and ignoring the need for zoning. The old Law of the West, leaving every man total control over his land and chattels even at the risk of screwing up the future, seemed to be the general direction of the planning board.

Now, however, things are changing. A member of the planning board, in fact, is the one to stimulate the change, with a request for zoning in the area northeast of Livingston in the Shields Valley area. The board member has a neighbor who wants to sell his land to a developer, so all of a sudden the board member is interested in zoning the area to keep him from doing it.

An eccentricity in Montana law allows neighbors to take steps and ask for specific zoning of a certain area, even if they disagree with the development plans of the landowner. The planning board member—acting as a private citizen—has taken that step, and requested the county commissioners to zone the area to keep out development.

The shoe's on the other foot, in other words, and it's pinching a little.

At a hearing on the matter a few days ago, a few folks made the wise observation that zoning of the county in this piecemeal fashion is really a regrettable way to solve the situation. If we set a precedent of neighbors petitioning every time somebody sets out plans to do some developing, it could turn into a tragically disorganized mess. Obviously, the best answer to controlling development is to come up with zoning the whole county can live with, and enforce it fairly and equally for everyone.

The county commissioners are studying the board member's request, and have invited public feedback on the whole matter. Hopefully, the feedback will help them decide to turn down the request and take action to insure that the planning board gets to work and sets up some good zoning for the whole county—a job the board should have been doing all along.

June 21, 1978

Community Affairs Plan. Div.
Helena, MT 59601

Your organization should slow up for you have the taxpayers and voters angry and you can see what happened in California.

Many of our prospects for the legislature are not only against any more of such regulations, some have promised to try and repeal some of those on the books.

Your 20 acre minimum has succeeded in breaking up large isolated tracts, estimated to be over 1,000 with homes scattered from hell to breakfast. Over 100 miles of new county roads must be built, plus power and phone service, road maintenance and school bus service. County officials admit it would be better and cheaper to have them on 1,000 acres near town.

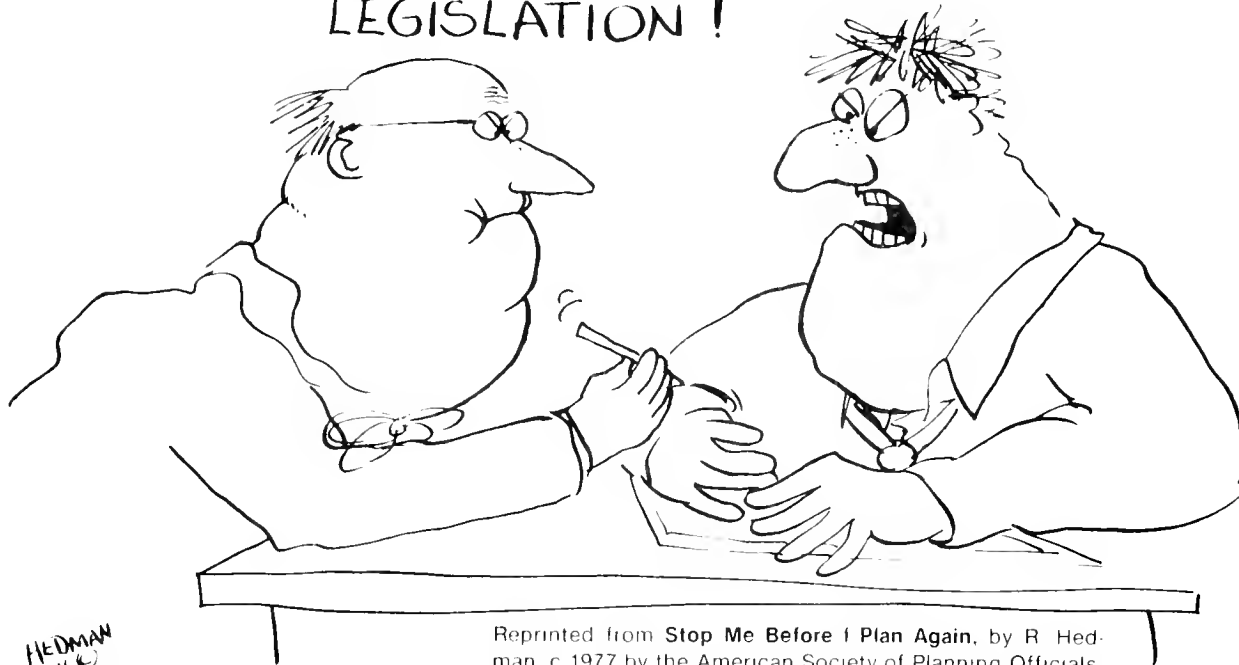
Brokers throughout the state will be circulating petitions for an amendment like proposition 13 with provisions that will require a large reduction of public servants. Don't forget, we know 90% of the voters.

If your agency promotes any more restrictions on land sales, I believe the amendment we will vote for will contain a provision to abolish land use from your state laws, for we know they have been responsible for much of our tax increase

Sincerely,

Charles K. Green
Charles K. Green, Realty
Coram, Montana

LOOK! YOU CAN CHANGE MY
DESIGN IF I CAN CHANGE YOUR
LEGISLATION!



Reprinted from *Stop Me Before I Plan Again*, by R. Hedman, c 1977 by the American Society of Planning Officials

Model Regs

You can get an updated edition of the "Montana Model Subdivision Regulations" from the DCA Planning Division for \$1.00. Prepared by the Division's Local Planning Services Bureau, the model suggests ways local governing bodies can formulate their own subdivision regulations to keep them up-to-date.

"The model doesn't contain requirements," said Steve Granzow, DCA Planner. "They're strictly intended as a helpful guide for local governments to evaluate and revise their own regulations."

The 92 pp. booklet incorporates changes in subdivision regulations since the previous model was written in 1975, reflecting legislative amendments, administrative rule changes and public comments and suggestions. The latest edition includes new sections on mail delivery and special standards for subdivisions in high fire hazard areas.

Copies of the model have already been sent to county commissioners, mayors and planning departments. You can order a copy directly by sending \$1.00 to the DCA Planning Division, Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59601 or calling 449-3757.

STOP ME
BEFORE I
PLAN AGAIN

by R. HEDMAN

Stop Me Before I Plan Again, R. Hedman, ASPO, 1977. 112pp. ASPO members \$5.95; others \$7.95. Available from the Planners Bookstore, American Society of Planning Officials, 1313 E. 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637.

The best collection of planning cartoons we've seen—the source of the cartoons in this issue of MPN. Mr. Hedman kindly gave us permission to reprint some of his cartoons, but there are others you won't want to miss.

DCA Releases 1978 County Profiles

The DCA Research and Information Systems Division is releasing its 1978 edition of the Montana County Profiles.

The Profiles, expanded from the last edition in 1975, feature county-by-county tables of data in 65 categories, including population, education, housing, employment, agriculture and business. You can order a Profile for as many counties as you wish for \$1.50 each, or a complete set of all 56 counties for \$84.00.

The statistical data is a convenient and timely reference for social and economic facts about each Montana county. The tables contain the most recent data available in March, 1978.

To order, use the form below, or contact: DCA Research and Information Systems Division, Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59601/(406) 449-2896.

Make checks payable to the Department of Community Affairs.

Allow 2 weeks for delivery.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP _____

_____ Please send me a Montana County Profile for each county I have checked below. I enclose \$1.50 for each, a total of \$_____

☐ Beaverhead
☐ Big Horn
☐ Blaine
☐ Broadwater
☐ Carbon
☐ Carter
☐ Cascade

☐ Jefferson
☐ Judith Basin
☐ Lake
☐ Lewis & Clark
☐ Liberty
☐ Lincoln
☐ McCone

☐ Roosevelt
☐ Rosebud
☐ Sanders
☐ Sheridan
☐ Silver Bow
☐ Stillwater
☐ Sweet Grass

☐ Chouteau
☐ Custer
☐ Daniels
☐ Dawson
☐ Deer Lodge
☐ Fallon
☐ Fergus

☐ Madison
☐ Meagher
☐ Mineral
☐ Missoula
☐ Musselshell
☐ Park
☐ Petroleum

☐ Teton
☐ Toole
☐ Treasure
☐ Valley
☐ Wheatland
☐ Wibaux
☐ Yellowstone

☐ Flathead
☐ Gallatin
☐ Garfield
☐ Glacier
☐ Golden Valley
☐ Granite
☐ Hill

☐ Phillips
☐ Pondera
☐ Powder River
☐ Powell
☐ Prairie
☐ Ravalli
☐ Richland

REORGANIZATION PLANS

The federal government is looking at three options for reorganizing its natural resources agencies and programs, said Richard Pettigrew, an assistant to President Carter. Carter's reorganization program is an attempt to improve coordination among federal agencies and stop wasteful duplication.

Pettigrew, in a May speech before the governors of the Missouri River Basin states, said reorganization plans were designed to build on the programs and agencies that were working well—what he termed “centers of excellence.” He included as examples the Forest Service, the Geological Survey and the National Park Service.

The first reorganization option would create a Natural Resource Policy Council to coordinate various programs with the presently existing agencies. This option would require no extensive reorganization, but would create a new governmental entity.

The second option would call for a cabinet-level Dept. of Agriculture and Renewable Resources, based on the existing Agriculture Dept. and adding the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Water Resources Council and the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (formerly the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation), along with several others.

Option three would create a Dept. of Resources Conservation, based on the existing Dept. of the Interior, but including the Forest Service, all or part of the Soil Conservation Service, the Water Resources Council and others.

The final decision on these options is expected from President Carter sometime in 1979.

10 MPN June/July
1978

MONTANA PLANNING NEWS

DCA Planning Division
Capitol Station
Helena MT 59601

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 2
Helena, Mt.
59601

Montana Planning News

from the
Montana State Library